

FIRST EDITION

THE FALL OF BELFORT

UNHAPPY FRANCE

Receives Another Blow.

The Town and its Defenses.

Progress of the Siege.

Alsace and Lorraine.

The Germans in Full Possession

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

In the convention for an armistice, agreed upon between M. Jules Favre and Count Bismarck on January 28, was included the following provision:—

"Military operations in the territory of the Departments of Doubs, Jura, and Cote d'Or, as well as the siege of Belfort, shall continue independently of this armistice, until an agreement is arrived at regarding the lines of demarcation, the tracing of which through the departments mentioned is reserved for a ulterior understanding."

An offer was made by Bismarck, during the negotiations, to extend the armistice to this section of France, but M. Favre refused to agree to it, as the surrender of Belfort was demanded as one of the conditions. So, while military operations have been suspended altogether throughout the rest of France, the struggle has still gone on in the district surrounding Belfort, to culminate, as might have been expected, in the final surrender of that fortress.

The Fortress of Belfort.

Belfort or Belfort is a strongly fortified town of about 8000 inhabitants, in the Department of Haut-Rhin, on the Savoureuse, about 35 miles west of Biele, in Switzerland, and 75 miles south of Strasbourg. It has a fine church, a college, a public library with 30,000 volumes, and several important iron foundries and wine factories. It has always been regarded as a highly important point in the military system, and for six hundred years saw many changes in ownership. Finally, in 1648, it was ceded to France by Austria, under the treaty of Westphalia, and from that time to the present remained in undisturbed possession of that country. Vanhan then took the defense in hand and enclosed the town and citadel within a bastioned enceinte by which the former was completely hidden from view. But the defensive works, as they stood at the outbreak of the war, were only completed about forty years ago, when General de Beltonet added two additional lines or circles of defensive works, by means of which Belfort was supposed to have become almost as strongly fortified as Strasbourg and Metz. Nature, indeed, had done as much as art for the defense of the place. The citadel stood upon a steep rock, and in addition there was the Roche de Belfort, or Rock of Belfort, which rises at its highest point to an elevation of two hundred feet above the river Savoureuse. The town was furthermore defended by a permanent fortified camp, capable of containing twenty thousand men. Its railway communications were also of the most important character, the town being the junction of three lines, those leading to Paris, South-eastern France, and Switzerland.

Its Position in the Military System of France

The declaration of war against Prussia at once rendered Belfort one of the most important military points in France. Situated at the southern extremity of the Vosges Mountains, it defended the passes between Southern Alsace and the valley of the Doubs, especially the road called the France de Belfort, which is the key to the passes between the Vosges and the Jura. The passes are rendered very narrow by a projection in the Swiss frontier just to the south-east of Belfort, bringing it within fifteen miles of the border. But they presented one of the most practicable paths for an advancing upon the capital, and once penetrated, the enemy would have entered upon a flat and open country, with but one important obstacle in the way of a direct march upon Paris—the fortified town of Langres, situated near the source of the Marne, about 65 miles W.N.W. of Belfort.

The Defense of Belfort.

The defense of Belfort was therefore a matter of vital importance, and the fortress became the extreme southern point of the French line at the outbreak of the war, General Felix Douay, commander of the 7th Corps, making it his headquarters. There were some unimportant military movements in the neighborhood of Belfort during the earlier weeks of the war, but it was not until about the 1st of November that the Germans laid formal siege to the place. There was an engagement in the vicinity on November 2, and on the 3d the place was regularly invested. General Treskow was in command at the time, but he was subsequently superseded by General von Werder, who reinforced the besieging army with a large portion of the forces which had been in the siege of Strasbourg, consisting principally of South German troops. A regular approach by earthworks was necessary, by reason of the formidable character of the fortifications.

On the 16th of November, and again on the 23d, the garrison made sorties which were unsuccessful. About the first of December the German lines were so far advanced that the bombardment began, but the garrison made a determined and heroic resistance, and the besiegers suffered great loss. Soon after the bombardment began, the Germans attempted to carry the works by storm, but were beaten off. The neighboring heights, however, were captured by the besiegers, with considerable loss. About the middle of December, reinforcements of heavy artillery arrived from Bavaria, and towards the close of the month two more attempts at carrying the place by storm were made, both of which were unsuccessful. These were followed by an unsuccessful sortie on the part of the garrison, these operations all

SECOND EDITION

TO-DAY'S CABLE NEWS.

Results of the French Election.

The Monarchical Reaction.

Favre on the Situation.

The Emperor's Entrance into Paris.

Doubts of its Advisability.

British Army Reorganization.

Abolition of the Purchase System.

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

Pacific Coast Advices.

No News of the Tennessee.

FROM EUROPE.

Jules Favre on the Situation.

PARIS, Feb. 15.—The following are the results of an interview of a newspaper correspondent with M. Favre. He said that the elections evinced are unexpected.

Reaction Against the Republic.

The country was alarmed at the action of the radicals, who played into the hands of the Monarchists. It is not probable that the Orleanists will be successful. The princes are too wise and patriotic to involve the country in a civil war.

The Republic Will Unavoidably be Adopted.

I am a sound Federalist. The republican system of Switzerland is the only stable government for France.

M. Grevy's plan should not be adopted.

The President should continue in office only so long as he is supported by the majority. The Legislature will never do for France.

The Executive Must Possess Strength for the great work.

After the great work, after the Assembly has decided for peace or war, of restoring the wasted energies of the country. I have a perfect hatred of war.

Reorganization of the British Army.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The following are the principal points of Mr. Cardwell's bill on the reorganization of the army, which will be brought forward to-morrow as the great event of the session.

The Purchase System Will be Abolished.

and promotions will be made by a fair system of seniority and selection. The Horse Guards will be removed to the War Office, thereby abolishing the Dual Government so long denounced.

The Appointment of Commander-in-Chief will be in future limited to the term of five years.

and that officer will be the head of discipline and patronage only. This is not directed against the Duke of Cambridge especially, but is in the interest of future discipline. The Department will have a force always ready, which will be fixed at

100,000 Men, with a Strong Reserve of militia, newly organized, to work with the regular army.

Volunteers will be left as they are, but be required to give the War Office guarantees of their efficiency. This measure is shrewdly designed to head off the anticipated conservative attack on the War Office management, and is intended to win over the radicals to support the administration on that dangerous issue.

Paris Delivery of Arms Complete.

VERSAILLES, Feb. 14.—The delivery of arms by the garrison of Paris is completed. Yesterday 200,000 muskets and 1400 brass pieces were among the surrendered weapons. The number of iron guns on the walls is not yet ascertained.

The Emperor's Grand Entree.

Among prudent people, both German and French, the entrance of the Emperor into Paris is regarded with apprehension.

A single pistol shot by an insane fanatic might result in fearful consequences.

It was intended at one time to invite the reigning sovereigns of Germany to accompany the Emperor and army in triumphal march. But this plan has been abandoned, and the sovereigns are invited to attend his Majesty in his grand entrance into his own capital.

The Programme for the Emperor's Return to Germany.

It is still undecided at what time the Emperor will return to Germany; but it is thought he will leave Versailles on the 23d, travelling through Strauburg, Carlsruhe, Stuttgart, and Munich, and visiting on the way the sovereigns who elected him Emperor, and who will fall into his train to grace his triumphal entry into Berlin.

If affairs are unpropitious he may remain here until the beginning of March, and then proceed direct to Berlin.

In any event the Emperor will be in Berlin on March 8, when the first Diet of United Germany meets.

The German Princes Returning Home.

The princes who have been attached to headquarters throughout the war are returning home.

Prussian Persecution.

There are no signs of the slightest relaxation in the German army, no indications that they consider their work finished. On the contrary, everything here is suggestive of the beginning instead of the close of the campaign. The Germans are taking every precaution in case of the renewal of the war, and will be ready to prosecute it with unusual vigor if the necessity unhappily should arise.

Twenty-two Divisions of Infantry which have been at Meudon since the beginning of the siege returned yesterday to Rouen to join the remainder of their corps.

Disaffection is felt at the presence of General Chazy and Faidherbe in Paris.

It is thought it was an oversight in framing the armistice to permit these generals, under the

THIRD EDITION

TO-DAY'S WASHINGTON NEWS.

Fears for the Tennessee.

Important Railway Suit.

The Bowen Bigamy Case.

Jury Disagrees and is Discharged.

Appropriations for Public Buildings

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Bowen Bigamy Case.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The jury failed to agree in the Bowen bigamy case, after being out all night, and were this morning discharged. They stood eleven for conviction and one for acquittal. When the jury came in, not having agreed upon a verdict, some one suggested that they be sent back. Judge Wiley replied that if it should be that in any case a juror should be got upon a case, with an improper motive, such a juror would be more than a match for the eleven others. He did not, however, desire to be understood as making any imputation on this jury. The foreman said that one juror for acquittal had stood out against all the others. The jury were discharged and the court adjourned till March, when another trial of Representative Bowen will take place.

Important Railway Suit.

The question involving the payment of \$1,151,000, by the New York Central Railroad Company, as a tax on scrip dividends, came before the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, with the solicitor of the bureau present, this morning, for hearing, according to prior arrangement. Mr. Elmore opened the argument for the company, which he insisted is not liable for the tax, because there are no scrip dividends, but interest certificates, which are not binding on the company, and which it is optional with the company to pay. Therefore, it was not such an obligation as is subject to taxation; and, further, that these certificates merely represent the earnings of the company which occurred prior to the passage of the Internal Revenue law. He presented various papers in support of these and other incidental points. The case was postponed until next Thursday, when Horace F. Clark will make the closing argument.

Fears for the Tennessee.

The Chronicle newspaper, which receives its information direct from the White House, states concerning the Tennessee that advices from Havana up to last evening gives no tidings of the vessel, and there seems to be very little hope of her safety. It is feared she is lost.

Notwithstanding this, naval officers assure the President and others that there is nothing to fear, and that the ship will yet turn up all right.

FROM WASHINGTON.

No News of the Tennessee—Admiral Lee Content of Her Safety.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Admiral Lee arrived at Key West night before last, and the Secretary of the Navy yesterday, when telegraphing him on other subjects, asked if he had any news of the Tennessee, and received the following reply:—"No news of the Tennessee, and none is expected until the Tybee returns from San Domingo, the last of the month, to New York. I believe she is all right. S. P. Lee,"

"Rear-Admiral Commanding N. A. Fleet."

Naval Orders.

Lieutenant-Commander George Dewey is detached from command of the Narragansett and ordered to command the store-ship Supply. Commander R. W. Meade is ordered to command the Narragansett. Passed-Assistant Paymaster H. T. B. Harris is ordered to the Supply. Boatswain J. K. Bartlett is detached from the Navy Yard at Portsmouth, N. H. and granted six months' leave. Boatswain John McCaffery is detached from the New York and ordered to the Navy Yard at Portsmouth, N. H.

FROM THE PACIFIC COAST.

Convicted of Piracy a Vessel.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 16.—Henry Drill, a sailor, was convicted yesterday of setting fire to the whale ship Massachusetts, when in the harbor of Lahaina, Hawaii.

The Frenchmen of this city raised \$12,000 for the

French Relief Fund

on Tuesday, making a total of \$192,000 since the war commenced. The Americans are also subscribing liberally.

Mexican Advices.

Advices by steamer from Guaymas and Mazatlan say that the election for President will be sharply contested in Sinaloa and Sonora, between Munoz and Lerdo de Tejada, while the partisans of Porfirio Diaz are numerous and active.

The Marriage of the Princess Louise

will be celebrated, under the auspices of the leading British and Scottish societies of this city, by a ball and supper.

Arrived.

bark Oneco, from Newcastle, New South Wales.

FROM THE SOUTH.

Lawless Legislation.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 16.—In the House the special committee to investigate the affairs of the Slaughter House Company has reported that the company has forfeited their charter, and voted a bill to that effect, which passed by a vote of 90 to 4. This bill authorizes any one to slaughter animals at or below the slaughter-house, on either side of the river, for the city markets.

FROM NEW YORK.

Erie Directors Classification Act.

ALBANY, Feb. 16.—A further postponement has been had in the hearing of the House Railroad Committee of the proposition to repeal the Erie Directors Classification act, and the first of March fixed as the time for taking up the case.

The Broadway-widening Repeal Bill

passed the House as amended by the Senate, and goes to the Governor.

FROM NEW ENGLAND.

Escape and Recapture of Convicts.

HARTFORD, Feb. 16.—Two convicts named Willis and Warner made an unsuccessful attempt to escape from the State Prison at Wethersfield. They got a mile away before being recaptured.

FROM THE WEST.

Suicide in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 16.—George F. Schaffer, formerly proprietor of the Globe Hotel, shot himself last night.

FROM THE STATE.

Resumption in the Tammany District.

TAMAQUA, Feb. 16.—The Philadelphia Coal Company is preparing to resume work at three collieries at once.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Senate.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 16.—A large number of petitions were presented, among them the following:—

By Messrs. Henszey, Connel, Davis, and others, in favor of the repeal of the collateral inheritance tax on public bequests.

By Messrs. Evans, Olmstead, and others, memorial from the Friends of this and adjoining States asking exemption from military tax.

By Mr. Connel, one in favor of the House bill allowing citizens of the Twenty-second ward, Philadelphia, to vote on the question of license or no license.

By Mr. Brooke, one in favor of a supplement to the act regulating turnpike companies approved January 20, 1849.

By Mr. Knight, several in favor of shortening the New York Banking Company's several years' term.

By Mr. Mumma, from citizens of Lock Haven and Dauphin county in favor of the extension of the Capital Grounds.

By Messrs. Mumma, Dill, Delamater, White and others, in favor of a local option law.

The House resolution providing for an adjournment over from to-morrow until Thursday afternoon came up for consideration.

Mr. Buckalew moved that it be so amended as to apply to the Senate as well as the House.

Mr. Davis hoped the amendment would not pass, as this was the last week in February, and an adjournment now would only prolong the session. The House passed the resolution by a vote of 100 to 60.

Mr. Billington said Wednesday was a legal holiday, and nothing could be done on that day.

Mr. Graham said practically only one legislative act would be passed.

Mr. Buckalew's amendment was then adopted by a vote of 11 to 16, and the resolution was then adopted.

Mr. Olmstead had a bill passed authorizing the adjustment of the account of Platt Hitchcock, formerly Treasurer of Luzerne county, which is charged with owing the State \$100, which he paid twenty-five years ago.

Mr. Wartel had a bill passed supplementary to act of 1850 relative to the Lancaster County Prison.

The Committee on Public Buildings reported a resolution authorizing the clerk to appoint a watchman for the Senate to perform duty at night at \$75 a month.

Mr. White opposed the resolution on the ground that it was contrary to law, and the Senate had all the employees under the law. The resolution passed by a vote of 23 to 6.

Messrs. Billington, Evans, Henszey, Knight, Warren, and White voting no. Messrs. Brooke, Connel, Kerr, and Olmstead not voting.

House.

Mr. Smith, of Philadelphia, introduced an act extending the power of the Commissioners as to authorizing them to take charge of Hunting Park and also of the request of Elliot Creson. This bill had been handed him by the Park Commissioners.

In supplement to the Committee on Animals bill was considered. The first section prohibited any street passenger car from carrying more than twenty passengers, and required that the car be provided with seats. The second section prohibited the cars from stopping at any point except at street crossings.

Messrs. Quigley, Leason, Lamon, Hagar, and Cloud were opposed to the bill. Mr. Olmstead, Messrs. Dumbell and Smith (Dauphin) favored the bill.

Messrs. Smith (Philadelphia) and Marshall were opposed to the first section limiting the number, but favored the section which allowed the cars only stop at the crossings.

Mr. Humphries (Allegheny) wished to offer an amendment, imposing a fine of \$500 upon managers of directors who should be found to work more than ten hours a day, and requiring conductors to be paid \$2-25 and drivers \$2.

The Speaker pro tem. ruled that the amendment was out of order, not being pertinent to the subject.

In the course of the debate Mr. Quigley said that the city was filled with spies who acted under the pretext to prevent cruelty to the animals, and whenever they saw a horse or a dog, made a complaint and divided the fines with the aldermen. As cases never got into court, it was thought that these people were offered in the Committee of the Whole, among them the following, who were all lost:—

Mr. Dumbell moved to amend by allowing thirty passengers instead of twenty.

FROM NORFOLK.

The Pennsylvania Central Railroad and its Proposed Southern Connections—Fears and Prejudices of Southern Merchants and Shippers.

PORTSMOUTH, Va., Feb. 14.—The merchants and business men of Norfolk and Portsmouth are very much exercised over a bill which has been introduced by the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company, and is now pending before the Legislature of Virginia, granting that corporation the right of way for an air-line road from Washington to Richmond. It seems that the Central has already obtained control of a number of roads, and it now only wants the line from Washington to Richmond to make its connections with the cotton fields of the South to Philadelphia. This scheme being warmly advocated by the friends of the Central, and as strenuously opposed by the people in this vicinity, as well as the Old Dominion Steamship Company and the Baltimore Steam Packet Company. Whether the bill pass the Legislature or not is a matter of doubt; but certain it is that the Central and men will do no stone unturned to accomplish their object. At present there is a large amount of cotton and naval stores received at Norfolk from the South and Southwest for shipment to Northern and European ports. This trade furnishes a large revenue to the lines of railroads leading into Norfolk and their steamship connections. If the Central succeed in getting the bill through, it is claimed that this trade will be carried north by rail to Philadelphia, and Norfolk will lose more than half of her entire trade. It is not strange, therefore, that her business men should protest against the passage of the bill and do all in their power to defeat it. It is claimed by the friends of the bill that the Central will do all that is in their power to do, and that a faster and more direct means of communication between the North and the vast cotton fields of the South is needed.

Representatives of the Seaboard and Roanoke and Norfolk and Petersburg Roads, and of the Old Dominion and Old Bay Lines of steamers, are now in Richmond upon all their endeavors against the bill, while the Pennsylvania Central is equally well represented, and between them there is a lively time.

A meeting of the citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth was held in the Opera House last evening, in opposition to the Pennsylvania Central road and its encroachments, which was largely attended by the substantial business men of those places. Speeches were made by Colonel William Lamb, President of the Board of Trade, Colonel J. W. Hinton, John H. Gayle, Esq., and others, in which the Central was roundly denounced. They set forth its present and prospective connections, and represented what the commerce of Norfolk would be did it gain its end.

A committee of twenty-four was appointed, representing Norfolk and Portsmouth, to express the sense of the meeting, who presented a long preamble and series of resolutions, setting forth the advantages of the "City by the Sea" in a commercial point of view, and the great disadvantage she would labor under were the bill passed.

New York Money and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Stocks heavy. Money easy at 5 per cent. Gold, 111 1/2; 5-20s, 109 1/2; 10-40s, 111 1/2; do. 1864, do. 110 1/2; do. 1865, do. 108 1/2; do. 1866, do. 107 1/2; do. 1867, do. 106 1/2; do. 1868, do. 105 1/2; do. 1869, do. 104 1/2; do. 1870, do. 103 1/2; do. 1871, do. 102 1/2; do. 1872, do. 101 1/2; do. 1873, do. 100 1/2; do. 1874, do. 99 1/2; do. 1875, do. 98 1/2; do. 1876, do. 97 1/2; do. 1877, do. 96 1/2; do. 1878, do. 95 1/2; do. 1879, do. 94 1/2; do. 1880, do. 93 1/2; do. 1881, do. 92 1/2; do. 1882, do. 91 1/2; do. 1883, do. 90 1/2; do. 1884, do. 89 1/2; do. 1885, do. 88 1/2; do. 1886, do. 87 1/2; do. 1887, do. 86 1/2; do. 1888, do. 85 1/2; do. 1889, do. 84 1/2; do. 1890, do. 83 1/2; do. 1891, do. 82 1/2; do. 1892, do. 81 1/2; do. 1893, do. 80 1/2; do. 1894, do. 79 1/2; do. 1895, do. 78 1/2; do. 1896, do. 77 1/2; do. 1897, do. 76 1/2; do. 1898, do. 75 1/2; do. 1899, do. 74 1/2; do. 1900, do. 73 1/2; do. 1901, do. 72 1/2; do. 1902, do. 71 1/2; do. 1903, do. 70 1/2; do. 1904, do. 69 1/2; do. 1905, do. 68 1/2; do. 1906, do. 67 1/2; do. 1907, do. 66 1/2; do. 1908, do. 65 1/2; do. 1909, do. 64 1/2; do. 1910, do. 63 1/2; do. 1911, do. 62 1/2; do. 1912, do. 61 1/2; do. 1913, do. 60 1/2; do. 1914, do. 59 1/2; do. 1915, do. 58 1/2; do. 1916, do. 57 1/2; do. 1917, do. 56 1/2; do. 1918, do. 55 1/2; do. 1919, do. 54 1/2; do. 1920, do. 53 1/2; do. 1921, do. 52 1/2; do. 1922, do. 51 1/2; do. 1923, do. 50 1/2; do. 1924, do. 49 1/2; do. 1925, do. 48 1/2; do. 1926, do. 47 1/2; do. 1927, do. 46 1/2; do. 1928, do. 45 1/2; do. 1929, do. 44 1/2; do. 1930, do. 43 1/2; do. 1931, do. 42 1/2; do. 1932, do. 41 1/2; do. 1933, do. 40 1/2; do. 1934, do. 39 1/2; do. 1935, do. 38 1/2; do. 1936, do. 37 1/2; do. 1937, do. 36 1/2; do. 1938, do. 35 1/2; do. 1939, do. 34 1/2; do. 1940, do. 33 1/2; do. 1941, do. 32 1/2; do. 1942, do. 31 1/2; do. 1943, do. 30 1/2; do. 1944, do. 29 1/2; do. 1945, do. 28 1/2; do. 1946, do. 27 1/2; do. 1947, do. 26 1/2; do. 1948, do. 25 1/2; do. 1949, do. 24 1/2; do. 1950, do. 23 1/2; do. 1951, do. 22 1/2; do. 1952, do. 21 1/2; do. 1953, do. 20 1/2; do. 1954, do. 19 1/2; do. 1955, do. 18 1/2; do. 1956, do. 17 1/2; do. 1957, do. 16 1/2; do. 1958, do. 15 1/2; do. 1959, do. 14 1/2; do. 1960, do. 13 1/2; do. 1961, do. 12 1/2; do. 1962, do. 11 1/2; do. 1963, do. 10 1/2; do. 1964, do. 9 1/2; do. 1965, do. 8 1/2; do. 1966, do. 7 1/2; do. 1967, do. 6 1/2; do. 1968, do. 5 1/2; do. 1969, do. 4 1/2;